

GERMANTOWNE *CRIER*



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Published Quarterly

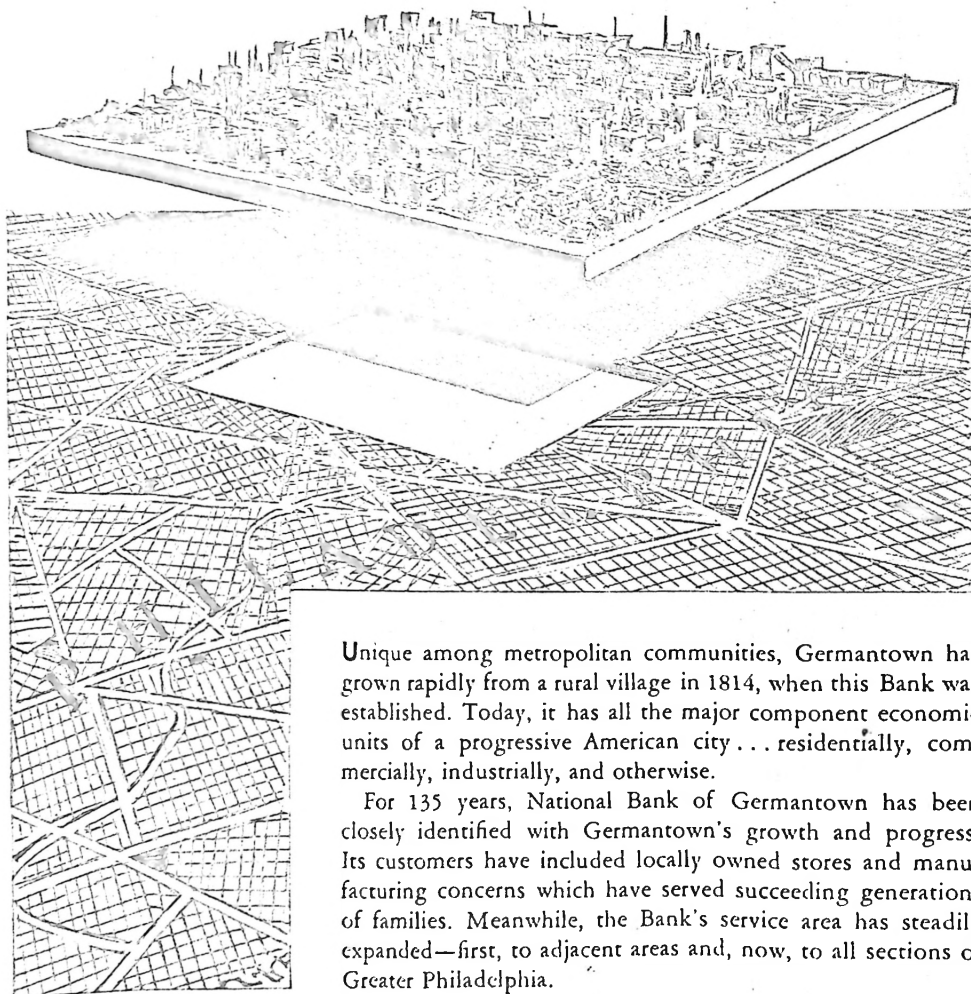
GERMANTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

. . . Number 2

25c Per Copy

GERMANTOWN

The "City" Within a City

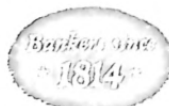


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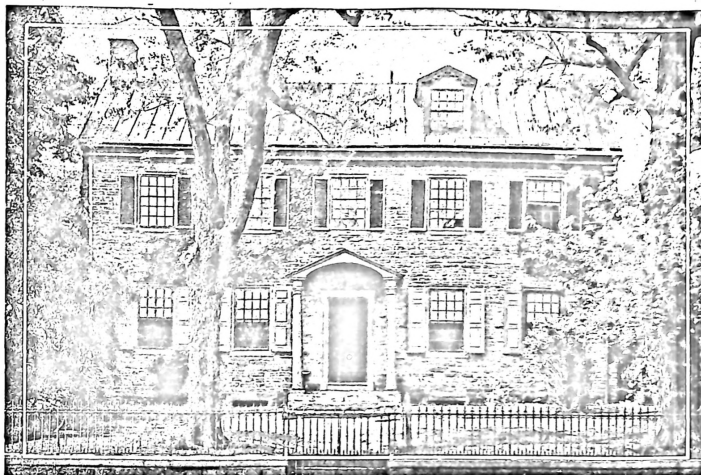
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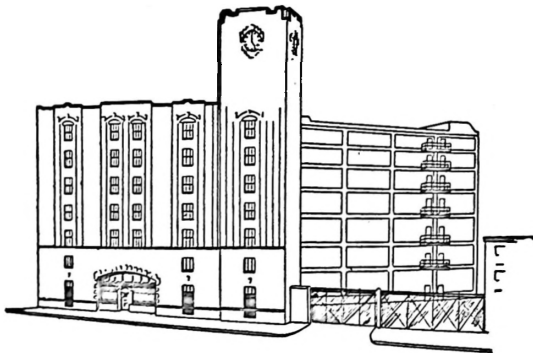
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GERMANTOWNE CRIER



Vol. 1

MAY 1949

No. 2

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MORSELLO

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LEONARDO

COMPLETE PROGRAM— GERMANTOWN WEEK 1949



MAY 15	Special Services in our churches
MAY 16	Community Luncheon—Chelton House, 12:15 P.M. (Sponsored by the Business Men's Association of Germantown) Guest speaker: To be announced
MAY 17	Lions Club Luncheon and Presentation of Distinguished Service Medal Choral Society Concert—8:30 P.M., Germantown Friends School Auditorium
MAY 18	THE VERNON FAIR Clothesline Art Exhibit and Sale—Vernon Park, 11 A.M. to 7 P.M.
MAY 19	Clothesline Art Exhibit continued (rain date for Vernon Fair)
MAY 20	Clothesline Art Exhibit continued. Special tours of Historic Houses for School Groups accompanied by teachers—2 P.M. to 5 P.M. SCHOOL'S MUSIC FESTIVAL Germantown High School Auditorium, 8:15 P.M.
MAY 21	"Visiting Day" Historic Houses of Germantown 12 Noon to 5 P.M.—coupon tickets
SPECIAL FEATURES • OPEN ALL WEEK MAY 16-21	EXHIBIT OF GERMANTOWN INDUSTRIES Auditorium of Germantown Branch of Philadelphia Free Library, Vernon Park VERNON ART EXHIBIT Vernon, Vernon Park (Open Monday evening)



(For additional details on Germantown Week, please turn to the center spread of your Germantowne Crier)

GERMANTOWNE *CRIER*



VOLUME I

MAY 1949

NUMBER 2

Germantown Week Is Germantown People

R. BRUCE JONES

FROM the Delaware River to the Wissahickon, from Elfreh's Alley to Whitemarsh and beyond, people have been thinking about Germantown Week. And they have been asking questions. What is Germantown Week? Who started it? What is its purpose? What has the Germantown Community Council got to do with it? Is there a Germantown Week every year? How long has this been going on in Germantown?

These questions — and some others — will be answered here. Then, through a better understanding of Germantown Week itself, there should come a deeper understanding and appreciation of the force for better Community Living which is at work in the Community of Germantown today.

Some years ago, a "May Market" was held in Vernon Park. Others followed, all planned as one day affairs, and many people came to Vernon Park to participate in them. Nevertheless, only a very small percentage of the people and organizations in Germantown ever came. Only certain groups of people were reached. There were entirely too many for whom the old May Markets never even existed, for whom Vernon Park was only a shortcut between Greene and the Avenue, or the home of the Site and Relic Society.

Then, about fifteen years ago, the Germantown Community Council was formed. Year by year it grew, in size and in understanding of the large and complex community of Germantown. It became more and more an integral part of the life of this community. It established its headquarters in Vernon and extended the hospitality of its property to its member organizations. And in its work for the advancement of Germantown, the Community Council was anxious to enlist the interest, the help, and the support of its citizens.

Two years ago (in May and June 1947) a planning committee of the Council met to consider how to

bring the activities and purposes of the Council to the concerned attention of the general population in the community. A Carnival in Vernon Park, perhaps similar to the old May Market, was suggested as one possibility. But it was felt that a Carnival would not be sufficiently broad in appeal to attract all kinds of people. It would not be an adequate expression of "Unity in the Community".

Therefore the idea of a Carnival was discarded, but from that, almost immediately, grew the conception of "Germantown Week".

The first "Germantown Week" was held last year, starting on Memorial Day and continuing through the first week in June. This year's celebration, to be held May 15 through May 21, is the second in a series which it is hoped will be continued annually.

There are several "reasons why" for Germantown Week. It provides an opportunity for both individuals and organizations to learn more about their community and what it has to offer them in all the aspects of community life. It is, through the income received from its various events, a means of support to the Community Council. Without such funds, the Council could not continue to operate on its present high level of service to Germantown and to its citizens. Germantown Week offers the opportunity to the many businesses of Germantown to reach a greater buying public, and to acquaint these new customers with the services and advantages available to them.

It is a demonstration of coordinated civic effort, and what it can mean to a community.

In 1948, Germantown Week was a success. Dr. Gordon W. Venable was general chairman, ably assisted by Mrs. William C. Wright and Mr. William Powell, Jr. A large committee shared the responsibilities of individual phases of the complete program. Miss Marguerite L. Riegel and Mr. Burton P. Fowler, as Executive Secretary and Chairman, respectively,



Vernon—Council Headquarters

of the Council, gave invaluable advice and assistance.

But more important in the eyes of the Council than the work of any of these individuals was the participation of the people of the community in Germantown Week. All aspects of community life were represented in the work that went into building the program and in the attendance at these events. The Men's Service Clubs, the schools through their dance and choral groups, the churches, business organizations large and small, those interested in art, in music, in the theatre, and in our historic heritage, the Friends of the Wissahickon and the Hospitals, the newspapers and the children who rode the Fire Engine at the Fair — all shared to a greater or lesser degree in Germantown Week 1948.

The Council is seeking to restore a feeling of community neighborliness, leading toward good living and good business in the purest sense. Active and democratic participation in a project such as Germantown Week, by large numbers of citizens, is indicative of real progress toward this goal.

The scope of Germantown Week this year is similar to that of 1948, but experience gained last year has resulted in a more unified program. It will have appeal to all tastes and interests. The Vernon Fair will be bigger and better. More organizations and more people have shared in the work of preparation. More of the public will visit its many booths and exhibits, and linger to examine the varied canvasses displayed by the Art League of Philadelphia — for this year the Clothesline Art Exhibit and the Fair will be held the same day.

The Art League is composed of a group of about thirty enthusiasts who meet at Vernon once a week to paint, draw, or make prints on their seventy-five year old etching press. Some are Art teachers, some free-lance artists, some have managed to achieve professional standing in spite of the problems of mothering children or fathering a full-time job. All are competent artists who enjoy their work to the full, and who welcome the opportunity to talk about it with an appreciative audience.

This, the Fourth Annual Clothesline Exhibit in Vernon Park, will be held on May 19th and 20th as

well as the day of the Vernon Fair. Exhibits, instead of being restricted to the members of the Art League, will be open to all. If the shade of Pastorius brings fair weather to Germantown, the sun may well shine on over a thousand pictures. The predominating medium will be water color, although the precedent of other years indicates that there will be great variety in both subject matter and method of execution.

The conception of outdoor Clothesline Exhibits originated in Philadelphia (with the Art League) some eighteen years ago, and has since spread throughout North and Central America. The Exhibit during Germantown Week is expected to be not only the biggest but also the most colorful ever held in Germantown.

The Week will open officially on Sunday, May 15, when the sermons in many of Germantown's churches will consider the community and the responsibilities of good citizenship. On Monday a community luncheon has been sponsored by the Business Men's Association of Germantown. The committee in charge will not (at this writing) divulge the feature attraction for this luncheon, but it is quite evident that "something special" is in the offing.

More schools will be represented in the Music Festival, so completely a success last year. Not to be missed on any account is the singing of the massed choruses at the end of this Program. It is both impressive and inspiring.

Many of Germantown's historic old houses will be open for "Visiting Day" at the end of the week. An easier and more pleasant exposure to some of the moments of our early history is not available anywhere else.

The new features for Germantown Week 1949, both available to the public the entire week, are the industrial exhibit in the auditorium of the Library in Vernon Park, and the special Art Exhibit in Vernon.

As Gordon W. Venable, Germantown Week Chairman, remarked, "We have arranged a program of exhibitions and events which we feel are mighty attractive. If we didn't think so, we wouldn't have worked so hard to line them up. And in getting this

(Continued on page 31)

A Tour of Old Germantown

JOHN W. JACKSON

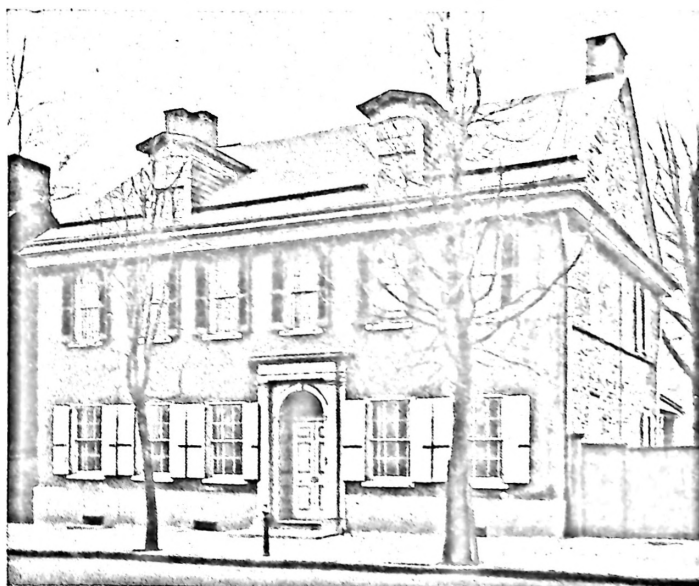
UNDOUBTEDLY the most delightful and interesting single event scheduled during Germantown Week will be the tour of our historic shrines. These mansions are among Germantown's most priceless possessions, and while the tour does not include all of our existing Colonial homes, it is representative. I am sure a most entertaining and complete afternoon will be enjoyed by those who undertake the tour. In fact, it will whet the historical and architectural appetite of the antiquarian, the historian, and the lover of the romance of the Colonial and Federal periods of our country, thus creating an insatiable desire to visit those mansions which unfortunately cannot be included at this time. Volumes have been written about the beautiful Colonial homes of Williamsburg, and other early American communities; but can it be said they have more architectural grace or beauty than our own Stenton, Wyck, Cliveden, Morris or Upsala, to name a few? Unfortunately too many of our historic homes are falling before the axe of modernization and progress, as witness the recent demise of beautiful Carlton.

A representative group of eleven homes and shrines has been selected by the committee in charge of the visitations. Suppose we take an imaginary pilgrimage following the same route we will take on our tour. Space limitations prevent complete descriptions of all the homes, however, we can recapture certain significant historical events and architectural features of each mansion. We will start with incomparable Stenton located in Stenton Park at Eighteenth and Courtland Streets.

Stenton, built by James Logan in 1728 as his country-seat, has often been considered with Westover in Virginia as the two finest examples of Georgian brick architecture in America. The severe simplicity of the two and one-half story mansion is offset by a picturesque charm that is uncommon among such early pretentious estates. Among the unusual exterior features to take cognizance of are the absence of shutters on the first floor windows, and the narrow windows which flank either side of the doorway, possibly the first side lights in American architectural history. Inside the spacious square hall, notice the somewhat unusual hall fireplace and, through an archway, the majestic staircase ascending to the floors above. Erected before the days of imported hand blocked wallpaper, characteristic of early homes,

Stenton has panelled walls. Your attention is called to the fireplace in the room on the left with the inscription "J. L. 1728", on the iron fireback, indicating the builder's initials. The second floor has a most unusual plan; across the entire front (forty-nine feet) extends one great room, the library of James Logan. Here was collected probably the most scholarly and finest private collection of books in Colonial America. This collection was given to the city of Philadelphia. In the rear of the second floor are three small bedrooms. Outside, the formal gardens are reminiscent of Mount Vernon and other famous southern gardens. Directly to the rear of the garden is a marker to the memory of Dinah, a negro servant, who saved Stenton from destruction by the British.

As official representative of William Penn, Logan transacted many affairs of Proprietary Pennsylvania from his mansion. Indians often visited Stenton, it is said, frequently lining the great staircase at night or erecting huts on the grounds, remaining for indefinite periods of time. Great personages have visited Stenton; both Washington and Howe made their headquarters here, and dignitaries of the Colony were constantly being entertained by a generous host. It would be delightful to linger here all afternoon to explore the old barn, the hidden passageway, and other interesting features, but we must be on our way as a number of other beautiful homes await us.



Grumblethorpe—5261 Germantown Avenue



Stenton—18th and Courtland Streets

Proceeding over Courtland Street to Wayne Junction, we arrive at Germantown Avenue, turning right and ascending the hill, we view on our left a pretentious mansion, Loudoun. The most outstanding feature of Loudoun is the pillared portico, reminiscent of Mount Vernon and other southern mansions of the plantation type. The house stands on Neglee's hill and was erected by Thomas Armat in 1801. Architectural interest centers chiefly in the twenty-four paned windows, the handsome dormers, and the exquisite fanlight above the main door.

After the Battle of Germantown the hill was used as a field hospital by the British and many soldiers were buried on the grounds. Armat named his home after Loudoun County, Virginia, where he resided for several years. In 1820 the house was rented as a summer school for young women. It is believed that during the tenure of the school the portico was added, thus giving the mansion its present appearance. The ownership of the house eventually passed to the Logan family when Anna Armat married Gustavus George Logan, and it remained in their possession until February, 1939 when Miss Maria Dickinson Logan willed the property to the City of Philadelphia.

Leaving Loudoun, we ascend the hill on Germantown Avenue and pass several old homes of eighteenth century vintage — the Mehl House at 4817 — Henry House, 4908 — Lower Burial ground with its quaint headstones — 5106, home of Commodore Barron who killed Stephen Decatur in a duel — and several others, some recognizable only to the practiced eye because of modernizations.

Our next stop is at the Conyngham — Hacker House, 5214 and the headquarters of the Germantown Historical Society. This mansion was built of stone quarried in Germantown by William Forbes in 1772. The property passed through various hands, including the Conyngham family, until purchased by Isaiah Hacker in 1844. In 1927 possession passed into the hands of the Germantown Historical Society. Housed in the museum is a most remarkable collection of memorabilia pertaining to early Germantown. The

Society's library contains what is probably the most complete collection of books and pamphlets on Germantown. The museum is open on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons from 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. and the library on Tuesday during the same hours.

A short distance farther north on Germantown Avenue at 5261, fronting directly on the sidewalk, is Grumblethorpe, the home of the Wister family. The present appearance of this country-seat of John Wister differs considerably from its original construction in 1744. At that time there were no dormers, and the front of the house at the second-floor level was marked by a penthouse roof. In the front was a balcony reached by a second story door, directly over the main doorway. Entrance from the street was originally possible through two doors, one slightly to the left of the main doorway and separated by a window. In 1808 extensive renovations and alterations were made, the penthouse roof and the balcony were removed, the balcony door and the small door to the left of the main door were converted to windows, and the front of the house pebble dashed. Inside the house is spacious, but with low studded ceilings. The interior woodwork has been restored to its original unique color. To Grumblethorpe, with its quaint and almost uncorrupted kitchens, old workshop and formal gardens, is attached a simple dignity unsurpassed in many other mansions. For those who would spend a restful hour in the old garden, it will not be difficult to recline on one of the old benches and with half closed eyes conjure an apparition of John Wister and a guest strolling down one of the many walks.

Before leaving Grumblethorpe, I suggest the visitor look in the northwest parlor and notice the dark spot on the floor. General James Agnew of the British Army was wounded at the Battle of Germantown, and died in this room, staining the floor, it is said, with his blood.

As we continue north on Germantown Avenue, we could call your attention to many famous homes, unfortunately space will not permit us this pleasant diversion. Therefore, we will proceed directly to Vernon Park, above Chelton Avenue where recessed in a grove of trees stands stately Vernon.

(Continued on page 28)



Wyck—6030 Germantown Avenue

UPSALA

A Monument to Gracious Living

BY DONALD S. BEARD, *President, UPSALA FOUNDATION*

JOHN JOHNSON, 3RD, was a bold man, but to enter into competition with the former Chief Justice of Pennsylvania's Provincial Court, Benjamin Chew, Esq., owner and occupant of beautiful Cliveden, called for boldness and enterprise. Young John had certainly both of these when he built Upsala on the family land facing Germantown Road, directly opposite the Chew estate. The houses differed architecturally, but in grandure and grace, John's house compared favorably with the older mansion.

John Johnson, 3rd, was the son of Joseph Johnson, who in turn was the son of John Johnson, Sr., (1708-1794) who purchased the property about 1766. John Johnson, Sr., (who Anglicized the name) was the son of Dirck and Margaret Millen Jansen for whom "Wyck" was built, thus it is obvious that the family was among the oldest and best established in the town.

The Revolutionary war had come and gone in Germantown without much serious property damage. Some bullet holes still remained to attest to the fact that soldiers were once a familiar sight marching on the road, and that the Battle of Germantown had raged around Cliveden, when Colonel Musgrave and a handful of his men barricaded themselves inside the house and could not be dislodged by American cannon mounted on the Johnson ground across the way.

With the end of the war, the town entered into a period of great prosperity and it was then, in 1798, that John Johnson, 3rd, set about building his house, one worthy of his bride, Sarah Wheeler, and of their social and economic standing in the community.

UPSALA IS BUILT

Three years were required to build this mansion, one of the finest examples in the country of late 18th century architecture. Nothing but the best of seasoned oak was used in its construction. All supporting interior partitions were built of solid stone and extended from cellar to roof. The front of the house was of native dressed stone, carefully pointed by a master mason. Marble steps led up to a columned portico, its floor a single piece of marble, here one entered through a beautiful paneled door into a wide hall. Classic plaster cornices, executed by an Italian of note, embellished the ceiling of the hall and that of the south drawing room.

Perhaps the most valuable possessions in the



Upsala—6430 Germantown Avenue

mansion are its mantelpieces, still in a perfect condition, their delicate woodcarving, Pennsylvania marble, and iron firebacks, making the house worth preserving for this feature alone. Much of the woodwork, such as that used in the graceful stairway, was imported from England.

The back building, older than the great house, having been built prior to the Revolutionary War, has the unique distinction of possessing a smoke house on the second floor, over the kitchen, where blackened rafters may be seen.

It is said by the family that the first mistress of Upsala was an admirer of Frederika Bremer, the celebrated Swedish author, and called the place Upsala in honor of Sweden. Miss Bremer visited Upsala in 1849, during her stay in America.

DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS

As years rolled by, quiet Germantown grew to be a city in its own right, virtually independent of Philadelphia for its needs and yet retaining the aspects of suburban life. New homes and industries supplanted the rural atmosphere of the early 19th century, and as with other great estates, the vast acreage of Upsala, originally extending to Roxborough Township Line, now Wissahickon Avenue, dwindled to the present two and two thirds acres, which is fortunately enough space to show the place to advantage. Even a street number has been given to the house, that of 6430 Germantown Avenue.

The descendants of John Johnson 3rd, continue to be identified with the community, receiving their education at Germantown Academy and serving on its Board of Trustees. They had watched the town crowding around their ancestral homestead, which remained in the family until 1940. The last to occupy Upsala were Miss Sally Johnson, and later, Dr. and Mrs. William Norton Johnson.

THE GREAT FIRE

In 1942 a fire of unknown origin severely damaged the vacant mansion and Upsala seemed doomed to give way to "progress", perhaps becoming a giant market. It was not until the Fall of 1943, when the sign of a demolition company appeared, that a startled community, led by those three undaunted souls, Miss Frances A. Wister, Mr. J. Mitchell Elliot, and the late Dr. Holman White, took matters in hand and raised the funds necessary to purchase the property.

To more practical people it seemed an impossible undertaking, but the members of the hastily created "Upsala Foundation" were not "practical" people and so they accomplished the impossible, they purchased the property free of debt, and immediately started constructing a new roof and two chimneys to prevent further damage by the elements.

THE RESTORATION

Much has been accomplished at Upsala since those hectic days in 1943. Under the capable guidance of the Foundation's architect, Mr. George Clarence Johnson, the rear wing was converted into a caretaker's home, the outside South and West walls have

been replastered, and the window frames and the original shutters have been repaired.

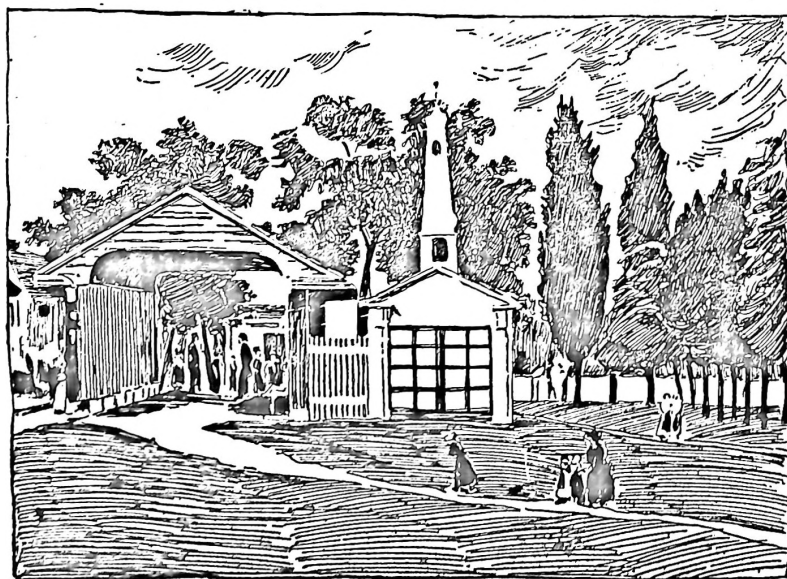
With the funds presently available it is planned this Summer to replace the dormer windows and cover the roof with shingles.

While work has progressed on the outside, the Women's Committee, headed by Mrs. J. Bradford Ritter, has made the inside its particular project the first having been the caretaker's quarters. This energetic group has repaired the plaster on the first floor and restored the Northeast room on the first floor. It was surprising to discover that the original woodwork in that room had been grained and that the walls had been a Pompeian red, the effect is most unusual and pleasant.

UPSALA HAS A GREAT FUTURE

The Foundation has a loyal and enthusiastic membership of approximately three hundred, which of itself is sufficient to guarantee the future of Upsala. Those who are interested in preserving this lovely landmark are cordially invited to become members of the Foundation.

For what purpose will the house be used when the restoration is completed? Not even the Foundation can answer this question. Preservation and restoration to its original beauty, so that we and future generations may admire and grow richer by the experience, may be in itself enough but it is hoped that it will become a showplace of the community and meeting place for historical groups who will want to share in sponsoring rooms and take part in the furnishing and maintenance.



Where the first American engine was housed

The Germantown Academy

DR. WILBUR H. ODA



GERMANTOWN ACADEMY was born as the Union School of Germantown at a meeting of citizens held at the house of Daniel Mackinett, then the Green Tree Inn, now number 6019 Germantown Road, on the 6th day of December, 1759.

The town has changed so much in the last fifty years that the old names are little known but we may at least set down those who founded the school. At the first meeting of those interested a Committee was appointed "to promote and procure subscriptions of all such well-affected and generous persons, as were willing to contribute to and assist in said undertaking." These were Christopher Meng, Christopher Sauer, Baltus Reser, Jacob Coleman, Peter Liebert, John Brighthurst and Jacob Engle. Richard Johnson was chosen "Treasurer of the Community" and the Trustees were Christopher Sauer, Thomas Ross, John Jones, Daniel Mackinett, Jacob Keyser, John Bowman, Thomas Livezey, David Deschler, George Alsentz, Joseph Galloway, Charles Bensell, Jacob Negle and Benjamin Engle.

The project was largely the outcome of that alliance between the German settlers of the place and the English Quakers which brought many substantial

industrial and political developments to Germantown. Associated with the principal citizens of the town in the enterprise was Joseph Galloway, a leading lawyer of Philadelphia, a close associate of Franklin and a leader of the Quaker party in the Assembly. Galloway was a member of the first Continental Congress but opposed complete independence and became a distinguished Loyalist. It was he who drew up the necessary papers and organization for the new school. The committee to raise the necessary funds went diligently to work and soon a "commodious piece of Ground" was bought from John and George Brighthurst for £ 125. This was on Bensell's Lane across the way from the home of Dr. Bensell. The advent of so important an institution naturally caused the change in name to School House Lane.

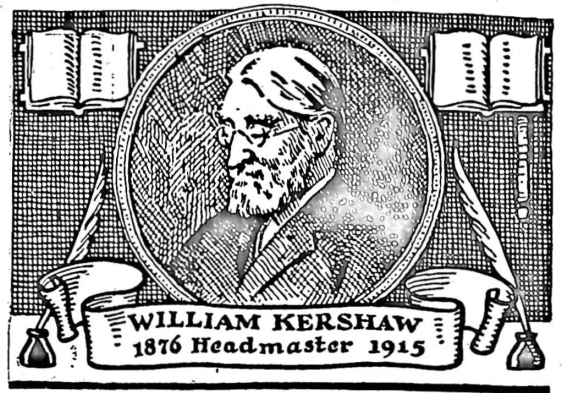
The school was opened on August 11th, 1761, with David James Dove as Master of the English School and Thomas Pratt as his Usher. Both of these men taught in the College and Academy of Philadelphia, now the University of Pennsylvania. Dove was a noted and remarkable man, being distinguished for his cantankerous personality as well as his good teaching. The German School was presided over by Hilarius Becker, the Master of a similar school in the town. In these two schools were gathered 60 and 71

pupils, respectively, no inconsiderable number for the new venture.

The personnel of the founders was a sufficient guarantee of the broad catholicity of the enterprise, but they recited in the opening prospectus "that the said schoolhouse shall be free to all persons of what denomination soever and wheresoever residing, to send their children thereto, without any regard to name or sect of people; provided they be regular and subject to the proper and necessary regulations of the master and trustees." This was a noteworthy statement because of the absence of public schools at that time, education being offered only by a few sectarian schools of little importance except among the Quakers.

Dove got into a row with the Trustees, as he had at the College, and was succeeded by an even more notable character in the person of Pelatiah Webster, now acknowledged as the "Architect of the Federal Constitution," whose writings and counsel are known to have guided the delegates at the Constitutional Convention of 1787. The school declined under Webster, to be brought up again by Thomas Dungan, a graduate of, and a teacher in the College, who took

Entrance to Kershaw Hall
Washington Hdqtrs during Yellow Fever epidemic



hold in 1774. But the War for Independence took him away to become a Captain in the Army, and the school was closed from 1778 to 1784 "on account of the distressed times" as the old minute of the Board of Trustees has it. The Trustees and contributors were divided and many held loyal to the crown of England which still surmounts the spire over the belfry. Part of the British Army were encamped along School House Lane and the ball on the spire bears record today of their marksmanship. The right of the camp of the Third Brigade rested near the schoolhouse, and the officers played a game of cricket on the playground. The bell has a romantic story. Brought over in the tea ship *Polly* in 1774, it was turned back with the rest of her cargo and rested in England until 1784 when it again voyaged across the Atlantic and was at last hung in the belfry for which it was cast. Since then it has rung out the assembling hour for many generations of Academy boys.

After the battle of Germantown the British wounded were cared for in the school house. Desks became operating tables and blood instead of ink bespattered the floors.

Perhaps the most important event historically in the life of the Academy was when, in 1793, its orbit crossed that of the government of the United States. The yellow fever had driven all the governmental offices as well as many of the citizens from the city and the question as to where Congress should meet became a pressing one.

Washington was living in the house next to the Academy, now used by the Primary Department. It had been built by Master Dove for a rival school and was then owned by Frederick Herman, the German Master. Roundabout were quartered Jefferson, Randolph, Hamilton and Knox, the President's Cabinet. They met in Master Herman's house to decide the important affairs of the new nation. The Trustees considered proposals that the Legislature of the State and that of the Congress of the United States should meet in the Academy building and decided to offer it to the latter. A Committee of

(Continued on page 24)

A Message from Our President

LEIGHTON P. STRADLEY

THE SOCIETY is pleased to report progress in the matter of the Morris House as a national shrine. Title has been given by the Morris family and accepted officially by Julius Krug, Secretary of the Department of the Interior. The House is under the jurisdiction and management of the National Park Service. Dr. Francis S. Ronalds the Coordinating Superintendent of the Morristown National Historical Park, Morristown, New Jersey, is the National Park's representative with whom we are in contact.

We now are having negotiations with Dr. Ronalds, with the view of entering into a cooperative agreement under which the Society will occupy the Morris House and its surrounding grounds and be called upon to exhibit the property to the public as an historic house and to carry out other activities featuring the Morris House and Independence National Historical Park of which the Morris House is a part.

If and when the cooperative agreement is completed, plans will be announced for the operation of the House by this Society. We contemplate that our headquarters will be established in the Morris House where a custodian or curator will be in attendance daily to further public interest in the House and to offer the services and facilities of the Society to the people of Germantown and visitors from elsewhere.

In the meantime, contracts are to be let for the refurbishing of the interior of the house in authentic 18th Century decor. This work will be done by the National Park Service, supervised as to architectural effects by Charles E. Peterson, a specialist on the Park Service staff, and, as to furnishings by J. P. Hudson, who is Museum Administrator of the National Park Service. It is planned to furnish the house generally, as it was furnished and decorated at the time the house was occupied by President Washington and the First Lady in 1793. The Morris family has donated a number of pieces which will be appropriate and decorative. The Philadelphia Museum of Art also has offered to lend twenty pieces to the Society to help complete the house furnishings. A women's committee will be in charge of furnishings, hangings and floor coverings in completing the interior decorations.

The Society plans to have an official opening with appropriate ceremonies when this interesting shrine is ready for opening to the public. We are planning to



Morris House—5442 Germantown Avenue

attract national attention with these ceremonies and to acquaint the public generally with the interest which this house and Germantown as an historical center merit.

The proposal for the restoration of Market Square sponsored by the Society is progressing favorably. Since our last report in the first issue of the CRIER, plans have been prepared by G. Clarence Johnson, architect and Vice-President of our Society, for the restoration of 5434 Germantown Avenue immediately adjoining the Morris House to the South. Mr. Harry W. Allen, an officer of the Northern Liberties Federal Savings and Loan Association, has been most cooperative and helpful in offering to adapt this property to the overall restoration plan.

Consideration is being given by the officers of the Germantown Fire Insurance Company to the early restoration of the Harkness House on the southeast corner of the Square.

It is expected that the general overall plan and preliminary sketch of the restored Square and surrounding buildings, being prepared by Mr. Brumbaugh, will be available soon.

From all reports the first issue of the GERMANTOWNE CRIER was well and favorably received by the people of Germantown. It is our hope and expectation that the CRIER will succeed in its objective in featuring, fostering and preserving the wealth of Germantown's historical traditions.

WHERE TO GO DURING GERMTOWN WEEK

THE VERNON FAIR

On May 18th (or the 19th if rain interferes) the biggest event of the Germantown Community Council's Germantown Week will be held in Vernon Park. More than 50 organizations have cooperated to bring you a day chock-full of just about everything. The fire engine ride will be back.

There'll be a magician and a Merry-go-round for the youngsters, a model Boy Scout camp, an infinite variety of colorful booths, music and square dancing on the lawn, and an old time auctioneer. Bring the family and stay all day. (You can get your lunch there at a reasonable price.)

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

Anderson Motette Choir
Christ Church & St. Michaels
Community Mothers Aid Club
Emlen Home & School Association
Exchange Club
Fitler Home & School Association
Friday Current Events Club
Florence Crittenton Home
Germantown Cooperative Association
Germantown Friends School Parents
Auxiliary
Germantown High Mothers Association
Germantown W. C. T. U.
Girl Scouts
Houston School
Janes Methodist Church, Women's
Society
Lions Club

Monday Luncheon Club
Mothers in Council
Queen Lane Manor Woman's Club
Rubicam Club
Soroptimist Club
Woman's Club of Germantown
Woman's Medical College & Hospital
Y. W. C. A.
American Red Cross
Boy Scouts
B'Nai B'Rith
Council on Volunteers
Family Society
Friends Free Library
Germantown-Chestnut Hill Housing
Committee
Germantown Hospital
Germantown Settlement

Ministerial Association of Germantown
Mt. Airy and Chestnut Hill
Coulter Street Friends Meeting
Green Street Friends Meeting
Greene Street Friends School
Planned Parenthood Association
Rittenhouse Y. M. C. A.
Salvation Army
Starr Center
Visiting Nurse Association
Wissahickon Boys' Club
Y. M. C. A.
Henry Home & School Association
Fulton Home & School Association
Germantown Academy—Parent-
Teachers Association
Stevens School Mothers Association
Roosevelt Junior High School

THE CLOTHESLINE ART EXHIBIT and sale of the Art League of Philadelphia will, on the day of the Fair, continue through Friday, May 20th. Plans indicate that over 1,000 pictures will be hung between the trees of the Park—the biggest open air show of Germantown's history!

SCHOOLS' MUSIC FESTIVAL

Seven schools have joined to make this year's concert even better than the very successful one held last year. The vital information is: Germantown High School Auditorium, May 20, 8:15 P.M. The participating Schools are:

CECILIAN ACADEMY	RAVENHILL ACADEMY
GERMANTOWN FRIENDS SCHOOL	LANKENAU SCHOOL
GERMANTOWN HIGH SCHOOL	SPRINGSIDE SCHOOL
STEVENS' SCHOOL	

Mrs. Elaine Brown will again conduct the massed choruses at the close of the program. This tremendous chorus is truly inspiring. Last year Mrs. Brown taught at the Juillard School of Music, and is at present a member of the Department of Music Education at Temple University. She is conductor of the Temple A Capella Choir and the Chorus at Fellowship House.



ANTOWN WEEK



Certain houses, as announced through the Schools, will be open Friday afternoon for groups of children accompanied by teachers, at a special price. Among these are Vernon, Upsala, Grumblethorpe, and the Historical Society Museum in the Hacker House.

HISTORIC HOUSES OPEN, MAY 21, 12 Noon to 5 P.M.

As its major contribution to Germantown Week, the Germantown Historical Society has arranged to have the following houses open on the final day of the

Stenton
18th and Courtland Sts.
Loudoun
4600 Germantown Avenue
Mehl House (Germantown Theatre Guild)
4821 Germantown Avenue
Germantown Historical Society
5214 Germantown Avenue
Grumblethorpe
5261 Germantown Avenue
Germantown Academy
School Lane and Greene Street

Week. Purchasers of either individual or strip tickets will be entitled to admission to the Society's Museum (5214 Germantown Avenue) at no extra charge.

Vernon (Germantown Community Council)
Vernon Park
Germantown Church of the Brethren
6613 Germantown Avenue
Wyck
6030 Germantown Avenue
Upsala
6430 Germantown Avenue
Concord School House
6309 Germantown Avenue
Upper Burying Ground
6309 Germantown Avenue



SPECIAL EXHIBITS—OPEN ALL WEEK IN VERNON PARK

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBIT

Germantown business and industry have made available a fascinating exhibit of a vitally important part of our community life. It will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 2 P.M. to 10 P.M. and on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.—in the auditorium of the Free Library in Vernon Park.

VERNON ART EXHIBIT

The walls of Vernon seemed "a natural" for a special art exhibit during Germantown Week. Prepared under the chairmanship of John Lear, Jr., this is something every visitor will want to see—and it is open every day!

COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

Monday, May 16th at 12:15 P.M., arranged under the auspices of the Business Men's Association of Germantown. Presentation of the Essay Contest awards will be made.

GERMANTOWN CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT

in the Auditorium of Germantown Friends School, May 17th at 8:30 P.M. This two-years' young organization, under the direction of Henry Kerr Williams, is fast gaining a reputation as a versatile and talented group of enthusiasts. The Germantown Little Symphony Orchestra is cooperating.

GERMANTOWN WEEK COMMITTEE

DR. GORDON W. VENABLE
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Mrs. Mildred Dillon
Mr. Pearce Gabell
Mrs. Charles Starbuck
Mr. Burton P. Fowler

MRS. WM. C. WRIGHT
Vice Chairman

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Miss Grace Evans
Dr. John T. Peters
Mrs. John W. Wallace
Mr. Glenn K. Morris

MR. JOHN S. WALKER
Vice Chairman

Miss Mary Brewer
Mr. Benjamin W. Frazier
Mr. G. Lathrop Smith
Mr. T. Harry West
Miss Marguerite L. Reigel

The Germantown Community Council wishes publicly to express its appreciation to the Germantown Historical Society for this space, made available to announce the events of Germantown Week. All success to the GERMANTOWNE CRIER!

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AN UNUSUAL MARRIAGE

June 7, yesterday was married at Germantown, Mr. Frederick Schroeder, an eminent Saddler, aged 22, to the amiable Mrs. Curfues, (Relict of Mr. Christopher Curfues), aged 96, a Lady possessed of every agreeable Qualification, in the Power of an ample Fortune, blended with the external Charms of a beautiful Set of Features, to bestow.

"Hail Happy Pair! May You on Earth be blest!

And by a numerous Progeny caress'd!

Brave, like their Sire, and as their Mother fair,

And, ever free from Sorrow, Pain and Care!"

—*Pennsylvania Chronicle*, May 31—June 7, 1773.

GERMANTOWN ADOPTS THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION

"Germantown, Sept 21. At a Meeting of a respectable number of the citizens of Germantown, Doctor Charles Bensel in the chair, the Constitution of the United States being read, Resolved unanimously, That we do highly approve of the proposed Constitution of the United States, and that we will concur with our fellow citizens in Philadelphia in praying the legislature immediately to adopt the measures recommended by the late Honorable Convention, for carrying the same into execution, Charles Bensel Chairman.

—*Pennsylvania Packet*, September 22, 1787.

DR. WITT'S MEDICINES

"Dr. Witt's celebrated medicines compounded and sold by Dr. Warner, in Germantown, alongside the seven mile stone. Worm powders, anti-colic powder, spirits for pain in the side, spirits for cough and consumption, drops for children, spirits for pain in the limbs and head pills."

—*Germantown Zeitung*, March 1, 1791.

HARPSICORD FOR SALE

"For the information of Lovers of Musick.. The subscriber, living next door to the widow Mackenet [Green Tree Inn, now the offices of the First Methodist Church], in Germantown, makes known that he has just finished, and to be sold at a reasonable rate, a neat upright standing harpsicord, which has been much admired by several good judges, for its sweetness of sound, as well as for the advantage of taking up so very little room, and of being an ornamental piece of furniture in any apartment. Said instrument may be seen and tried at the aforesaid place, where attendance will be given by the maker, John Engle."

—*Germantown Zeitung*, March 1, 1791.



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Following is a woman's shopping list, bearing date 1719, which will give us a very fair idea of what a fashionable lady used to wear:

A smock, of cambric holland.
Marseilles quilted petticoat.
A hoop petticoat, covered with tabb.
A French silk quilted petticoat.
A mantua and petticoat, of French brocade.
A French point, ruffles and tucker.
English stays, covered with tabb.
A Flanders lace handkerchief.
A black silk *à la mode* hood.
Pockets, of Marseilles quilting.
Sable tippet.
Lining, of Italian lutestring.
Turkey handkerchief.
A beaver and feather, for the forest.
A riding suit, with embroidery of Paris.
Three dresses, for the masquerade, two from Venice.

—*Godey's Lady's Book*, 1858.

The May and June meetings of the Germantown Historical Society will be held at "Vernon."

OBITUARY

Died, at Philadelphia, on Monday, the 31st of May, JOSEPH DELAPLAINE, ESQ., a gentleman very cordially beloved, and very generally known throughout the United States, among the patrons of the Belles Lettres and the Fine Arts—in the cultivation of which he possessed a fine taste—and for their promotion in our country, his time, his talents, and his property, were devoted with singular zeal and affection.

The Publications in which he engaged, and the pecuniary means which they required, occasioned him such labours of mind and body as weakened and impaired his constitution; and he fell into nervous debility, and general and gradual decay. Seeing death was not far distant he betook himself more earnestly to that christian faith in which he long reposed, and as he said "he was ready to die in peace, having placed his hopes on the merits of his Advocate and Redeemer."

Mr. D. received a polished education and possessed fine natural talents. He had a decided taste for the best literature, as well as for painting and music. These he enjoyed with the keenest relish and constantly endeavored to recommend, by the labours of his pen, and every kind of personal aid. His sacrifices have been great for the liberal arts—and he ought to be remembered with gratitude and kindness, for what he performed and what he attempted—for the excellence of his aims, disposition and manners.

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APPRECIATION

My esteemed friend Joseph Delaplaine, Esqre, to whom several of the following letters were addressed, died in 1824; and before dying, laid aside the present Papers as *keep-sakes*, to perpetuate *his* memory in *my* Family. Having been born in the same year with him, and brought up from the earliest childhood near to each other, we had conformed our manners and habits, so much like each other, as to have made our sympathies and affections much the same. Undivided in life, it was my peculiar lot to be almost alone with him when he died. He died in peace with God and man.

He was descended of an ancient and respectable Family—his Ancestor James Delaplaine, who was a Frenchman expelled by the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, joined the Society of William Penn at the earliest settlement of the Province—and he took up the Ground now the area of the Market place in Germantown, which he has turned to the Public. The respectable and ancient Stone house, now the residence of James Stokes, Esqre, at the northern end of the Market, was the property and the residence of the said James Delaplaine. Many respectable descendants of that Family live now near New Port in Delaware; but none in Germantown. My friend J. Delaplaine married Jane the daughter of Wm Livingston, Esqre (the Son of Gov. Livingston of New Jersey) and has left two sons, Brockholst, and George Patton, to perpetuate his Family. Several *obituary* notices appeared about this time; one of which I have preserved annexed. He left three finely executed portraits of himself.

These letters I desire to perpetuate as *curiosities*; as the time is coming, when their *handwritings*, will be very rare. There is a moral pleasure, in looking even at the *manual* acts of men, whose *mental* endowments have procured them renown. I regard the chief of them as the more valuable, because they convey internal evidence of their friendship and *confidence*. A *trust* which I hope no descendant of mine will abuse by *publication*. This would be to destroy their value, by making *them common*, besides, betraying the confidence of the respectable writers.

Germantown June 1824

JOHN F. W. WATSON

DID YOU KNOW

Germantown Friends School is the largest private school in Philadelphia, with an enrollment of 650.

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THE GERMANTOWN ACADEMY

(Continued from page 14)



Belfrey—L.

Lafayette Bells still ring every morning

Trustees, headed by Henry Hill, accordingly waited upon President Washington and offered, in a formal address, to provide quarters for the Congress. Washington replied in an appreciative and complimentary manner, but the abatement of the fever by December avoided the change.

The President remained a resident of Germantown during that summer and the succeeding one, taking up his abode at the Deschler house, owned then by Colonel Franks and now known as the Morris house, all names of Trustees of the Academy. During this time he entered his adopted son, George Washington Parke Custis, as a student in the school and frequently called for him at the close of school hours.

In 1798, fearing the desolation a return of the yellow fever would cause in the city, the Banks of Pennsylvania, and of North America "moved their institutions in the Public School House" and occupied the first storey and cellar.

In 1824 General Lafayette came to Germantown to renew old associations and was given a reception at the Academy, when each boy was presented to him. He particularly noticed Fernando Bolivar, nephew and adopted son of the "Liberator" of South America, who was a pupil in the school. At this time Walter Rogers Johnson, a Yale graduate, was master, and the school was upon one of its high levels under his capable direction.

The school obtained a charter in 1784 as the "Public School of Germantown," which is still its corporate title. In the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of June 11, 1794, it was advertised as "Germantown Academy," and so it has since been known.

Germantown Academy, in common with all educational institutions, suffered from the financial depression that accompanied the Civil War. Many of its alumni were at the front and rendered distinguished service.

The school had its ups and downs in the years up to 1877. A. Bronzon Alcott, a noted educator and the father of Louisa M. Alcott, was the Master in 1831. In 1876 it was at low ebb and the Trustee engaged a new Head Master in the person of Dr. William Kershaw, a graduate of Princeton. He was successful from the start, and conducted the school until 1915, when he retired to become Head Master Emeritus and Secretary of the Board of Trustees. "Words," says Dr. Samuel Johnson in the preface to his dictionary, "are the Daughters of Earth, but things are the Sons of Heaven." No words can adequately describe what Dr. Kershaw has been to generations of Academy boys. He lives in their hearts and in their careers. He was a born school master but his chief influence was in shaping the character of his students. He has always been known as "Pap." This signified affection, not ridicule.

He was succeeded by Samuel E. Osbourn, who maintained the high standard of the school and built up its student body in conformity with the growing community. To meet this demand, additions were made to the teaching force, the buildings were increased and improved and the playground greatly enlarged.

In 1924 the Intermediate School Building was added—a gift from Mr. Edward J. Moore in memory of his son, Edward Wynne Moore, who at the time of his death was a Trustee and a devoted friend of the Academy.

Harking back to the time when Primary and Intermediate classes were crowded into the third, and part of the second, floors of the Main Building, it is not difficult to visualize what this new addition meant to the school.

The next step was to convert Kershaw Hall into classrooms for the Primary Department. Thus was realized a dream of long standing: each department in its own building. Logical segregation of age groups is conducive to better teaching.

During this period, also, the school acquired additional real estate. This consisted of the street frontages of several School Lane properties whose



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Study Hall—Main building

back yards had previously been purchased to make room for the athletic field.

An extensive fund-raising campaign was initiated in 1936. At its conclusion, several further improvements were undertaken, including the restoration of Washington-Kershaw Hall and the construction of the Kindergarten-First Primary Wing. This step gave the school the finest air-conditioned classrooms of their type in the city.

The restored house contains the Washington Room, where the First President's cabinet convened while Washington lived in this house during the sojourn of the Executive Branch of the Government in Germantown.

In 1941, a group of alumni purchased the Wood property, and presented it to the Academy.

In the Main Building, the restored Study Hall is an exceptionally beautiful room. It is interesting to observe how well the old building lends itself to the uses of Modern Education. This room was restored by William T. Hord, '30, in memory of his uncles, Henry H. Firth, '85, and Samuel Lloyd Firth, '88.

Opposite the new Study Hall is found the new Maxwell McKeen Brown Memorial Library. This beautiful room was restored by the family of Maxwell McKeen Brown of the Class of '40, who was killed in the Battle of the Bulge, and was dedicated on November 16, 1947.

Dr. Osbourn retired in 1948 and was succeeded by Mr. John Forbes Godman, who graduated from Yale University in 1930 with honors and with the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy.

In his undergraduate days at Yale he majored in the fields of English and History. In his junior year he was named Israel Towne Cowles Scholar and upon his graduation continued graduate studies at the Law School and the Graduate School of Education of Yale

University. During this period Mr. Godman, who had played end on the varsity football team for two years, served as Freshman Counselor and as a member of the University Football Coaching Staff.

He was appointed Master at The Gunnery School in 1931. While holding that post he took courses at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. From that year until 1939 he was teacher of history and mathematics and served as Director of Studies and coach of football, basketball and baseball. In 1939 he was appointed Assistant Headmaster.

In December 1941, Mr. Godman enlisted in the U. S. Army Air Forces and served until February 1946, when he was discharged with the rank of major. Among his assignments were the posts of Director of Pilot Ground Training Schools at the Santa Ana, California, Army Air Base and at the Williams Field Radar Schools in Arizona.

The new administration has already made numerous physical changes at the Academy. A large, completely equipped cafeteria has been built in Sauer Hall, three new classrooms have been added, and the administration offices have been centralized in Washington Hall. It is interesting to note that while excavations were being made for this work during the summer the old vaults of the Bank of North America were discovered.

Administration and educational changes include the reorganization of the grades on the six-three-three basis, the departmentalization of the upper grades of the Lower School, the introduction of a Discipline System, which has been incorporated into a revitalized program of student government.

The renewed activity that has been in evidence, has had the vigorous support of the alumni and the parents, as have the plans for the new gymnasium, the modification of the old gymnasium into classrooms, and the restoration of the chapel and rest of the main building. All of which gives the promise of future service to the community consistent with the Academy's contribution in the past.

Kershaw Hall before restoration as school building



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A TOUR OF OLD GERMANTOWN

(Continued from page 10)

Vernon, erected in 1803 by James Matthews, has had a rather uneventful historical existence, its occupants always living respected and quiet lives in the community. In 1812 the residence was purchased by John Wister and remained in his family until the third quarter of the nineteenth century when it was acquired by the city. The building was occupied for many years as a free library, after which it housed the museum of the Site and Relic Society progenitor of our Historical Society. At present it is the headquarters of the Germantown Community Council.

Architecturally Vernon has many features to attract the visitor. Particular attention should be directed to the splendid doorway of alternate small and large panels. The dormers are especially noteworthy with their square six paned windows in both lower and upper sash, and the semi-circle of six ornamental panes in the upper sash. An object of quaint simplicity is the foot scraper with a heart motif.

Leaving Vernon we stroll up the Avenue to Wyck at Walnut Lane, opposite Green Tree Tavern, now the parish house of the First Methodist Church of Germantown. It is the hope of the committee that Wyck will be included in the tour.

Wyck is indubitably the most picturesque house in Germantown. It is probably the oldest building in Germantown, the original part being built about 1690 by Hans Millan. Investigating the construction development of Wyck presents a romantic turn to even the most assiduous historical student. Sometime after Millan constructed his house another was built close by; between the two houses ran an old Indian trail. Subsequently the upper stories of the two structures were joined, with the trail continuing to exist beneath the connection. This trail or passageway has since been enclosed and is now the great hall of the mansion. Therefore, this unique mansion actually consists of two separate buildings, and with its unusual blending of American and European construction cannot be classified as distinctly colonial. Because of the singular method surrounding Wyck's origin, several architectural oddities are evident — windows are not uniform, some have six-paned lower and upper sashes, others have twelve-paned lower and upper sashes, while still others have nine-paned lower and six-paned upper sashes. The great hall, with huge double doors opening into both the north and south gardens, is another feature somewhat anomalous to colonial architecture. However, this gem, among Germantown's priceless treasures, has suffered less from the modernizers than other mansions.

Wyck has never passed out of the hands of the descendants of Hans Millan. Many notable personages have been entertained under its roof, including the Marquis de Lafayette on his visit to Germantown in 1825. Its halls and rooms were used as a hospital

after the Battle of Germantown, and it is said bloodstains still are noticeable on the floors. In the great hall is a curious little chair that once belonged to Benjamin Franklin, and according to tradition, anyone who sits in this chair should make a wish.

At the northwest corner of Washington Lane and Germantown Avenue stands the Johnson House, often considered one of the most excellent examples of an early Pennsylvania-German farmhouse. It was built by Dirk Jansen, one of the original settlers, for his son, John Johnson. The Johnsons were Quakers and the possession of such a substantial and commodious residence indicated worldliness and ostentation, thus causing grave anxiety among the strict Friends. Similar to many of Germantown's other early homes, it is built of native stone of small rectangular blocks, somewhat rougher and irregular in comparison to the more formal dressed blocks of Cliveden and Upsala. The small penthouse roof at the second floor level is somewhat similar to that removed from Grumblethorpe, although no balcony ever existed at the Johnson House. Another feature is a quaint divided door permitting the upper half to be open in the summer while the lower half is closed to prevent stray animals from entering the house.

Johnson House was in the thick of the battle and many evidences remain of the bitter struggle which was waged outside the house. Unfortunately the bullet holes which were visible, until recently in the doors, and the northwest wall which was scarred by a cannon ball have been covered by paint and mortar. During the fight the Johnson family was forced to take refuge in the cellar. The backyard fence was riddled with bullets; it was removed to the museum of the Site and Relic Society in 1906. The house was a station on the underground railway during the Civil War, and assisted in the removal of fugitive slaves to places of refuge. Today it is the headquarters of the Women's Club of Germantown.

Opposite the Johnson House is a small building known as the Concord School House. The school was built in 1775 to accommodate the residents of upper



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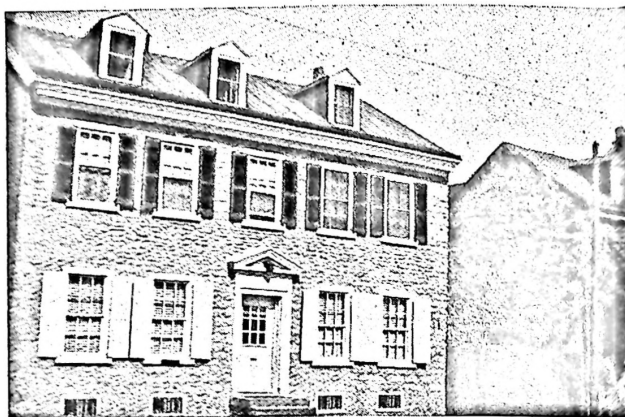
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Germantown. Speculation is and has been rife concerning how the school received its name; some say it was named for the good ship "*Concord*" which carried the first German settlers to Germantown, others contend its foundations were laid at the Battle of Lexington and Concord. For many years it housed the Charter Oak Library. One of America's many fraternal organizations, the Junior Order of American Mechanics, was conceived in this building.

Immediately adjoining the School House property to the north is the Upper Burial Ground of Germantown. Here are buried many of our earliest settlers, and several American officers and soldiers who fell in the Battle of Germantown. One curious headstone declares the deceased was 969 years old.

Upsala, opposite historic Cliveden, above Johnson Street, is the last stop on our tour. Once this house, one of the most magnificent examples of Colonial architecture in this vicinity, reposed amid a setting of beautiful trees and gardens. However, neglect and a disastrous fire a few years ago almost destroyed the mansion. Fortunately a foundation has been organized and sufficient funds raised to partially restore the house. Thus again making Upsala the proud companion of its more historic neighbor across the Avenue. Upsala was built by John Johnson, Jr., on ground he inherited from his father. The house was completed in 1801. For further information on Upsala and its founder, may I suggest you read Mr. Beard's article in this issue of the *Crier*.

As all good things must come to an end, so must our tour of Germantown's historic homes. Therefore, let us in retrospect retrace our steps and revisit austere and dignified Stenton — Loudoun with its imposing portico — delightful Grumblethorpe with its rustic setting — Vernon, stately and majestic — then on to magnificent Wyck, liveable and with graceful simplicity — Johnson, the rugged individualistic German farmhouse — and finally substantially comfortable and magnificent Upsala. But there is solace in the thought that Germantown Week will occur again in 1950, and possibly other beautiful colonial homes of Germantown may graciously open their doors to the wayfarer.

GERMANTOWN WEEK

(Continued from page 8)

program together, a lot of people — you'd be surprised how many — have gladly given many hours of their time. I'm sure they all have a warmer feeling toward Germantown because of this giving of themselves. I'm just as sure that everyone who attends these events of Germantown Week 1949 will be well rewarded, and will in a sense receive an extra dividend through knowledge gained about the community and its Council. I'm counting on the people of Germantown for even better support this year than last. They won't regret it."

Burton P. Fowler, headmaster of Germantown Friends school, is serving his second term as chairman of the Germantown Community Council. Commenting upon Germantown Week, Mr. Fowler says: "I consider Germantown Week to be one of the major efforts of the Germantown Community Council. It is the one part of our program which can and does reach out into the community beyond the confines of special interest groups. Through Germantown Week, knowledge and understanding of other phases of the Council's work in the community is spread to many homes. Dr. Gordon Venable did a splendid job as general chairman for last year's Germantown Week. We are delighted that he is serving in the same capacity again this year."

It is evident that Germantown Week has already become more than a means of public relations for the Germantown Community Council. It is a very important experiment in community cooperation, on the organizational as well as on the individual level.

The Germantown Community Council realizes, perhaps better than any other single organization, that there are areas where much is still to be done for the betterment of community life. As a matter of fact, the Council's whole program of service is directed toward that end. Germantown Week, a concrete expression of historical reputation and present achievement, might well serve as inspiration toward future accomplishments.



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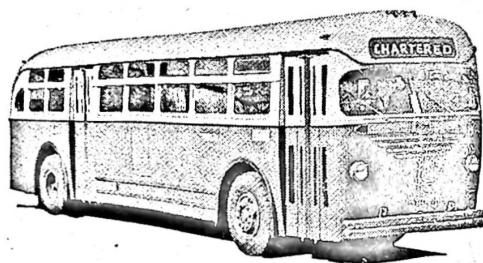
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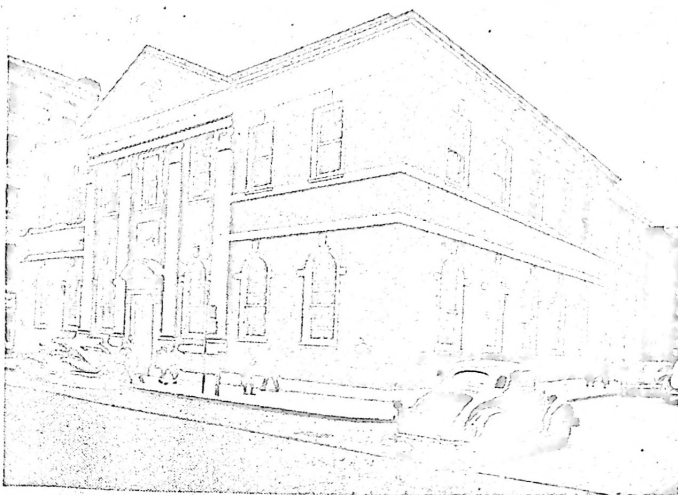
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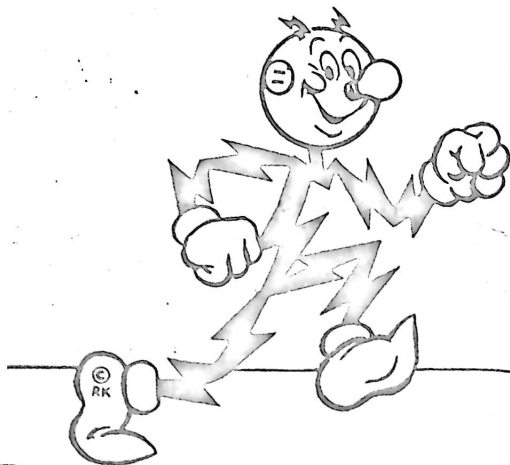
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